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Secret

May 12, 1964

*all paragraphs  
classified unless  
otherwise noted  
BSA, 7/12/77*

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Classified by 2040  
Exempt from GDS, Category III  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

BASIS FOR INQUIRY

A confidential source abroad has advised as follows:

PEDRO GUTIERREZ VALENCIA, a credit investigator with residence at Calle Florida No. 9, Mexico, D. F., Mexico, in a letter to President LYNDON B. JOHNSON dated December 2, 1963, at Mexico, D. F., claimed that on or about October 1, 1963, he observed an American he believed was LEE HARVEY OSWALD at the Cuban Embassy at Mexico, D. F., in the company of an unidentified Cuban. GUTIERREZ claimed that these two persons departed from the vicinity of the Cuban Embassy in a late model, beige-colored Renault automobile.

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RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION IN MEXICO

A second confidential source abroad advised as follows:

*Mexico*  
On April 15, 1964, Mexico City used car salesman CLAUDIO OLIVEROS, a resident at Avenida Ejercito Nacional No. 1049, Apartment No. 301, Mexico, D. F., advised that following the previous interview on April 7, 1964, he had recalled that he purchased a Renault automobile in Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, Mexico, in about July, 1961, and transported this vehicle to Mexico, D. F., where he sold the car to a Mr. DURAN, who was

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employed at a furniture manufacturing establishment. OLIVEROS vaguely recalled that the buyer of this vehicle either resided or had his place of business in the Colonia Del Valle section of Mexico, D. F. He also recalled that this individual had a brother who claimed he was married to an American girl.

On April 17, 1964, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that it had been determined from observation that HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO, the husband of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN (former Cuban Embassy employee in Mexico, D. F., who was contacted by LEE HARVEY OSWALD in connection with the latter's efforts to secure a Cuban transit visa to go to Russia), operates a 1962, maroon, four-door Volvo sedan bearing 1964-65 Federal District of Mexico license plates No. 30-51-18. MEXICO

On April 24, 1964, CLAUDIO OLIVEROS advised that he had learned from a former associate in the used car business in Mexico, D. F., that an automobile sales receipt still in the possession of the latter individual clearly shows that OLIVEROS sold a 1959 Renault, motor number 7444492, to a Mr. DURAN at Mexico, D. F., in 1961. OLIVEROS stated that this sales receipt was signed by DURAN but the signature was somewhat illegible and he was unable to read the full name. It was brought to the attention of OLIVEROS that records of the Mexican Federal Automobile Registration Bureau record the motor number of this 1959 Renault as No. 744492. OLIVEROS stated that he is certain that the motor number he provided is correct on the basis of the sales receipt which he had personally examined and added he is convinced that this is the vehicle which was formerly the property of ARTURO GAONA ELIAS of Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, Mexico, which he, OLIVEROS, had purchased in 1961 in Ciudad Obregon.

On April 25, 1964, front-view and profile photographs of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO were exhibited to PEDRO GUTIERREZ VALENCIA, who stated that the photographs of DURAN in no way resemble the unknown Cuban he observed on or about October 1, 1963, in the company of an American he thought to be OSWALD.

GUTIERREZ advised that he had not been able to devise any means whereby he might visit the Cuban Embassy in an effort

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to identify the unknown Consular Section employee who was the subject of his credit inquiry on or about October 1, 1963, and, due to the extreme illness of his wife, he had found it necessary to spend most of his time at home caring for his wife. GUTIERREZ mentioned that he had continued to study the problem of how he might further substantiate his allegation that the American he observed at the Cuban Embassy was LEE HARVEY OSWALD, but he had been unable to devise any possible way of doing so.

On April 25, 1964, GUTIERREZ pointed out that the data he has previously provided has exhausted his means of substantiating his allegation.

On April 25, 1964, CLAUDIO OLIVEROS advised that he had determined that the 1959 Renault automobile which he had brought to Mexico, D. F., from Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, had been sold to DURAN at a lamp manufacturing and sales establishment known as "Lamparas Duran" (Duran Lamps) located in the Colonia Del Valle area of Mexico, D. F. MEXICO

On April 27, 1964, a second confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past reported that he had ascertained that "Lamparas Duran" is located at Calle de Amores No. 327-A, Mexico, D. F., and currently is operated by one MARIO CARAZO, who stated that he had purchased the business from LIDIA DURAN. Source stated that the business apparently employed only three persons, all Mexican nationals.

On April 29, 1964, this second source reported that he had ascertained that LIDIA DURAN is a widow and has one or more brothers.

On April 27, 1964, a third confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past reported that he had established from records of the Passport Section, Mexican Foreign Ministry, Mexico, D. F., that LIDIA DURAN was born on March 18, 1928, at Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico, and that her full name, according to Spanish usage, is LIDIA DURAN NAVARRO. At the time of the issuance of the Mexican passport in 1959 she was married to one RAUL FLORES GUERRERO. On April 29, 1964, source advised that no record of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO could be located in the passport files of the Mexican Foreign Ministry.

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Mexico

On May 6, 1964, a fourth confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that he had ascertained from the records of the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Federal Judicial Police at Mexico, D. F., that LIDIA DURAN NAVARRO, HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO, and RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO are siblings. Source pointed out that various records examined had established that the parents of the above individuals are RUFINO DURAN SILVA, father, and LIDIA NAVARRO DE DURAN, mother.

On May 7, 1964, CLAUDIO OLIVEROS, Mexico City car buyer, examined front and profile photographs of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO and immediately identified the photographs as being of the individual to whom he had sold a 1959 Renault automobile at Mexico, D. F., in July, 1961. OLIVEROS also examined a photograph of RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO and identified this photograph as being of a brother of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO. After examining these photographs, OLIVEROS recalled that he had known the DURAN family some ten years ago when they resided on Calle Panuco in Mexico, D. F., and he also recalled that a sister of these two brothers had resided with the family at that time. OLIVEROS stated that in late 1962 he had encountered RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO at the International Airport in Mexico City and was told by DURAN that he was taking a flight to visit some of the European "Iron Curtain" countries, possibly including Russia.

On May 7, 1964, DAVID ALKON, a Mexico City architect residing at Calle Fernandez Gonzalez Roa No. 47, Ciudad Satelite, State of Mexico, advised that HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO, the husband of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, currently drives a red, four-door Volvo automobile. ALKON stated that DURAN also owns a 1959 Renault automobile which had been brought from Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, and was purchased by DURAN at Mexico City in 1961. ALKON recalled that DURAN experienced difficulty in licensing the vehicle and mentioned that he had corresponded with the previous owner in Ciudad Obregon in order to secure additional data concerning the automobile. ALKON advised that this 1959 Renault is a light-gray color and definitely is not beige-colored. He said this car currently is stored at a repair garage due to having been involved in an accident, and DURAN had indicated he was not able financially to pay for the repairs.

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ALKON also advised that DURAN had maintained possession of this car since he purchased it in 1961.

ALKON explained that he maintains a contractual relation with HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO for the interior decoration of houses designed by ALKON and is well acquainted with his brother, RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO, as well as with one sister who is known to ALKON as "LIN." Concerning "LIN," ALKON advised that she is a widow and until about a year ago operated a lighting fixtures company known as "Lamparas Duran."

ALKON stated that SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, the wife of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO, formerly was employed in the Consular Section of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City, and he believed the 1959 Renault which has been the property of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO since 1961, undoubtedly had been used by the family for transportation to and from the Cuban Embassy on numerous occasions.

ALKON stated he wished to emphasize the fact that he had appeared voluntarily at the United States Embassy on December 9, 1963, at which time he reported that his business contacts with HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO had left him with the impression that contacts between SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN and OSWALD related only to the latter's application for a visa and that her knowledge of OSWALD was slight. On May 7, 1964, ALKON advised that his subsequent discussions with HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO have caused him to believe that the latter never had any contact with OSWALD and that SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN's contacts with OSWALD were limited to OSWALD's application for a visa at the Cuban Embassy.

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